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ABSTRACT

Following a brief introduction, chapter 2 presents a typology of runaways in which four types of runaways are profiled (healthy, unhealthy, curious, chronic). The behaviors of each type are described and the services needed by each are discussed. General techniques for working with runaways are detailed, including developing a runaway profile, developing formal contracts with runaways upon their admittance to programs, and observing and reacting to runaway signals. Chapter 3 discusses steps which can be taken by parents or others when a child runs away from home, and lists names, addresses, and telephone numbers of national resource organizations for runaways and of organizations in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Chapter 4 provides resources for dealing with missing children. Types of abductors are described and 27 actions which may be taken when a child is missing are listed. Techniques are described which could help parents increase their child's awareness of potential dangers. Names, addresses, and telephone numbers are given for organizations which are involved with missing children. A brief description of services offered by various organizations is included. Addresses for national youth information services are given as resources for further information on runaways and missing children. (NRB)

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RESOURCES FOR RUNAWAY AND MISSING CHILDREN

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RESOURCES FOR RUNAWAY AND MISSING CHILDREN

Prepared for

The Office of Juvenile Justice
and Delinquency Prevention

U.S. Department of Justice

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May, 1984

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Each year, an estimated 1.2 to 1.5 million children and youths disappear from home, with the numbers and problems continually increasing. In 1976, the runaway youth centers funded by the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act served 15,000 youngsters. In 1981, services were provided to 133,000 drop-in clients and 45,000 sheltered children.

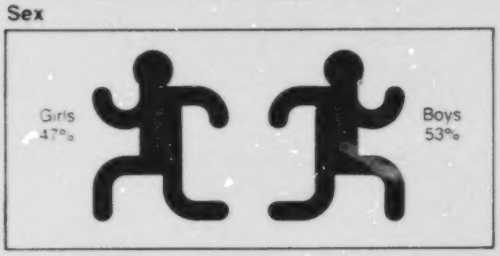
A federal study of runaway youths reported that children left home because of: (1) poor communication with parents; (2) existence or fear of child abuse, neglect or sexual exploitation; (3) unreasonable demands or restrictions by parents; (4) disruption within the family system; and (5) school related problems.

Other studies indicate that runaways gone from home for over a month usually become prostitutes, averaging at least three years in prostitution. Runaway and other missing children as young as eight have been picked up, beaten, addicted to drugs, and used in child prostitution and pornography. Local and national "buy a kid" rings exist, from which children may be purchased nightly or permanently. Most of these children suffer from mental and physical diseases; many don't live long. The majority of runaways are never reported as missing by their families. Runaways gone over six months rarely return.

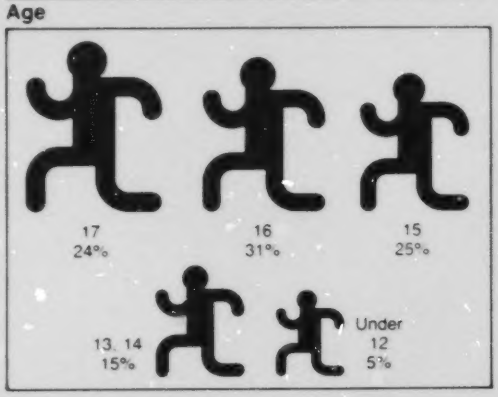
Who are the runaways?

Children of the rich, the poor, and the middle class run away. They leave black, white, Hispanic, blue-collar, and white-collar families. Contrary to popular myth, girls on the run do not outnumber boys. Most runaways are 15 to 17 years old.

Sex



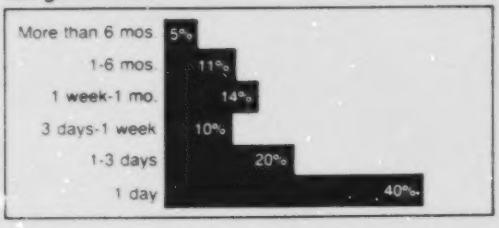
Age



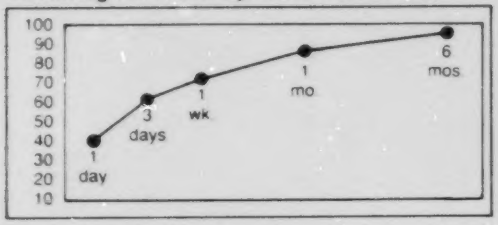
How far and how long do they run?

Most are gone only a few days, and all but a small fraction of the runaways return within six months. Half of them have traveled fewer than 10 miles from home.

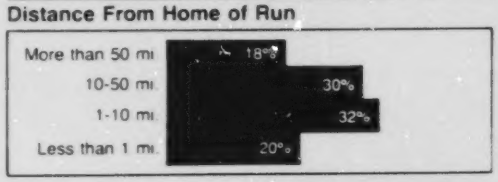
Length of Run



Percentage of Runaways Who Have Returned



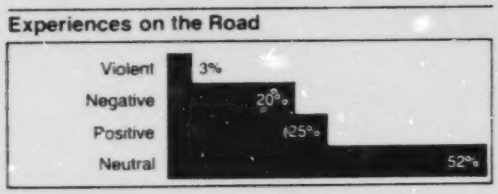
Distance From Home of Run



What happens on the road?

Some runaways report enjoying their experience because of the freedom from school, meeting new people, and seeing new places. Many report a neutral experience — neither positive nor negative. Others suffer from hunger, cold, or fear. Some are victimized by streetwise youths and adults. Unfortunately, some are beaten, robbed, raped, or jailed while on the road.

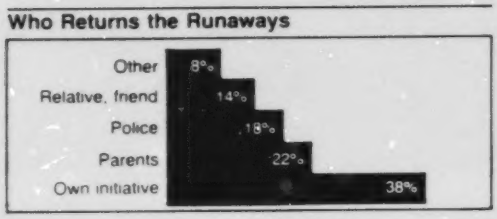
Experiences on the Road



How do they return home?

The largest group of runaways returns on their own, but others are located by parents, police, relatives, and friends.

Who Returns the Runaways



Produced by
The Boys Town Center
Boys Town, Nebraska 68010

in cooperation with
The National PTA, Chicago, Illinois 60611

PTA

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CHAPTER 2

TYPOLOGY AND SERVICES FOR RUNAWAYS*

Because the runaway problem is extremely complex, it is perhaps the most difficult issue to resolve in the arena of detention reform. There are two clear sides to the issue. One strongly feels that runaways are to be incarcerated for a period of time to gather information, secure assistance from other agencies, and make arrangements for returning youths home. This side feels that detention protects young people from the evils of the street while preventing them from running.

The other side of the argument is equally forceful in expressing their viewpoint. The runaway has not committed a crime and should not be treated as a criminal. Detaining runaways only postpones the time when they will run. As many bad things could happen to a child who is in jail or detention as could happen on the streets. Jail does not protect. Runaway behavor is a social problem that requires a social solution.

Both arguments appear valid. What is generally absent in debating/discussing the issues over the years, however, is reliable information regarding runaway behavior. Without understanding the dynamics and nature of children who run, it is difficult to determine how they should be treated. It is this lack of information that enhances the myths and misconceptions about the runaway child.

Through the years, valuable information on the dynamics of runaway behavior has been secured. The application of this knowledge, however, appears limited to runaway and crisis programs, and is not transferred to the rest of the juvenile justice system. Based on research, and practical operational experience, the following is a typology of runaways, and a discussion of suggested services.

There are basically four types of runaways. Their behaviors are different and the services they need vary.

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*This chapter is based upon excerpts from a speech presented by Jim Oleson, Director of the Alpine Mental Health Center, Breckenridge, Colorado, to the Western Colorado Jail Removal Conference in Grand Junction, Colorado, on December 16, 1983.

I. HEALTHLY RUNNERS

These children run from a very negative home situation; histories of abuse, incest, and indifference are prominent. The purpose in running is to secure help. At the same time, as a result of years of victimization, they are frightened, distrustful of adults and social agencies. Destructive emotions, such as rage and depression are common.

-- They will usually run alone, with more than two together being rare. They will initially seek out crisis homes and shelters. They want to resolve their pain.

-- Traditional residential services will be effective if the program can tolerate some acting out, a lot of testing and confused behavior.

-- Generally, they will seek help as close to home as possible. They may go to relatives or friends first.

-- Use of drugs and alcohol may be common. Delinquent behavior is usually minor and for attention getting purposes.

-- You can usually focus immediately on solving the primary problem which causes the running away.

-- It is important that they be treated effectively, in a nonpunitive way during their first episode, or they will seek more destructive solutions.

-- This group constitutes 50 percent to 60 percent of all known runaways.

II. UNHEALTHY RUNNERS

These youths run for the wrong reasons. They may have the same problems as the healthy runner, but their responses and attitudes are different.

-- This is the drug, sex, rock and roll group.

-- They focus on pleasure to escape pain.

-- They are unpredictable and have a tendency to run in groups. Three or more are common.

-- The group is fragile and transitory, but very important. It represents protection and survival.

-- Their runaway patterns are unpredictable. They may go long distances or stay close to home. This is usually determined by the personality of the group, and the degree of hassle they receive from home, school, law enforcement, etc. (The street is their refuge; their friends have become their families.)

This group is very self-destructive, especially in their use of drugs and alcohol. They have a high potential for delinquent behavior, which is done for protest, and/or survival reasons. Members of this group can be very volatile and severely disturbed.

-- Most of them started as healthy runners but were not helped in the system.

Treatment of these individuals is very difficult. Two or more in a shelter can be disastrous. Success in treatment may depend on their most recent runaway experiences. If they were victims of abuse, assault, or abandonment by group members (much like their history at home), or difficult drug experiences, they may again look to traditional programs and services. Food, shelter and protection is important, but usually only for short periods of time. Their pathology will then again control their behavior. They will return to the group to escape the pain of their problems.

It is important to get the unhealthy runners' attention. Programs should try to refocus their allegiance to the in-house group. Keep them busy with activities, errands, and work. Attachments to the staff and residents are critical. One should not focus on the youth's primary problems until some bonding has occurred. After this attachment has developed, one should start to work on solving problems. Some running away can be expected as progress is made. It is usually short-term, however, and contact with the program will continue.

These youths don't give you much time, from a few hours to a day or two, so the staff must work fast. The primary focus is to get their attention and keep them in the program.

These youths constitute 15 percent to 20 percent of all known runaways.

III. CURIOUS RUNNERS

This is the exploratory youth (usually male). He doesn't feel he has any problems.

-- He runs to something rather than from something.

-- He feels little or no pain. He has a sense of independence and autonomy, and usually runs by himself.

-- He may explore drugs and alcohol, as he does geography, and it is part of his inquisitive nature.

-- Delinquent behavior is usually nonexistent or very minor.

-- He is usually very cooperative and agreeable to treatment services.

-- Imposing some responsibilities, initiating parental contact, encouragement, and assistance will facilitate his return home.

-- His runaway behavior is inconsistent. He may do this frequently or only once. Many youths travel long distances and are gone for a long time. Others stay close to home and may go for one or two days.

-- This group constitutes five percent to ten percent of all known runaways.

IV. CHRONIC RUNNER

This youth is pushed out, abused, abandoned. A failure in all systems. They are working out their own solutions to their lives.

-- They are vagabonds before their time.

-- They have learned to accommodate their pain.

-- Most of their behavior is predictive, and extreme emotional reactions are no longer observable.

-- They have usually made decisions regarding drugs, crime and sexual preference, and they can go in any direction.

-- They are very street wise and have many stories to tell about their experiences.

-- They are usually loners, or very discriminating in whom they run with. They are not self-destructive; in fact, they are survival-oriented.

They will use shelters or crisis homes for their primary purpose: food, shelter, warmth, cleanliness, companionship. They are knowledgeable about the system and know that it hasn't worked for them.

Services should focus on enhancing their survival skills, and if given the opportunity, on adopting a less dangerous life style.

-- This group constitutes 10 percent to 15 percent of all runaways.

These are types of youths you see in our facilities. It is important to note that these categories are not mutually exclusive. You will see different traits and behaviors in each type. However, looking at the primary characteristics will provide focus and direction in how to deal with each runaway.

Many programs that service these youths are well-meaning, but make major mistakes in their treatment. They treat all runaways the same, and don't differentiate among the reasons for their running. These errors will compromise their credibility with the youths, and jeopardize their effectiveness. Too many programs see only one solution--return home. This should simply be one of several options.

Some programs try to do too much, too soon. They try to solve all the problems all the time. Problem-solving should be geared to the runner's receptivity and abilities.

In some situations, the program's attitude is wrong. Practitioners seem to pass judgement on the child's behavior, rather than seeing it as a symptom of a youth's problems. Some judgements include:

-- Running is bad. (In many cases it is the best or only thing a youth could do.)

-- You will get into trouble or be hurt. (These youths have been running. They know if they have been hurt or in trouble.)

-- If you don't stop running, you will be locked up for your own protection. (Most youths feel being locked up is punishment, and not protection. In many cases, the youth has had more problems while being confined than on the streets. They simply know better.)

There are some general approaches or techniques that programs can implement which will be helpful in working with runaways.

These include:

(1) Develop a runaway profile.

Understand the runner's dynamics and characteristics. Do a history. Most runners wil repeat past behaviors. They develop routines and rituals around running. Knowing this will help you understand and treat the youth's behavior.

(2) Develop a formal contract upon their admittance, and modify as appropriate during their stay.

Contracts may include things such as an agreement about no drugs, sex or violence; or what they will do for themselves, and what the program will do for them.

Formalizing an agreement gives the youth structure and clear expectations. Make responsibilities specific rather than vague. This helps him understand his role.

(3) Observe and react to runaway signals. All runners exhibit them but they are not the same for all youths. A few are described below.

Different behaviors or change in daily patterns.

Quiet phone calls.

Questions to residents or staff regarding geography, resources, activities, whereabouts of former residents, etc.

Inappropriate anger at staff or peers. (This is done to justify the running.)

Withdrawal, isolation.

Regression in the program. (The youth is starting to get close to people, and he doesn't trust his feelings, or is afraid of getting hurt again.)

A natural response after observing some of these signals is to introduce a runaway watch. The purpose is to tell the youth that we know you are preparing to run, and that we will do what we can to stop you.

Runaway watch includes:

-- Close and more intensive supervision, especially during the times or circumstances when he has run in the past. More activities, errands, work assignments, social and group events.

In some cases, peer monitoring is helpful, using other residents to observe behavior and enourage him to stay.

-- Swarming, a process where all available staff and residents intervene with an individual during a critical period, to deal with problems and reduce his desire to run.

Many years ago we put lepers in colonies because we didn't understand their disease.

Today we put runaways in jail because we don't understand their behavior. Perhaps someday we will.

CHAPTER 3

RESOURCES FOR RUNAWAY YOUTHS

When a child runs away from home a number of steps can be taken by parents or others.*

(1) Contact relatives, the child's friends, and parents of friends since runaways sometimes run to or with someone they know.

(2) Notify the police. If possible, provide a recent photograph of the runaway.

(3) Leave a message for the runaway at the closest runaway shelter, and call the toll-free hotline numbers listed below for information.

(4) If the runaway calls home directly, youth workers suggest that parents express positive feelings for the child.

(5) If the child returns and the problems which led to running away persist, professional counseling should be considered.

Nationally, a number of organizations provide referrals and services for runaways. These include the National Runaway Switchboard, a 24-hour toll-free hotline, operated by Health and Human Services' Youth Development Bureau, which permits runaways to telephone home long distance, free of charge, relays and receives messages for youths and families, and staffed by volunteers, provides counseling and referrals to appropriate agencies nearby; the privately funded Runaway Hotline, based in Houston, Texas, and staffed by volunteers which relays messages confidentially from youngsters to parents, and provides referral services to shelters 24 hours daily; and the National Network of Runaway and Youth Services, the national clearinghouse for runaway issues and referral.

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*Adapted from "America's Runaways," The Boys Town Center, Boys Town, Nebraska 68010, in cooperation with the National PTA, Chicago, Illinois 60611.

NATIONAL RESOURCES FOR RUNAWAY YOUTHS

National Network of Runaway and Youth
Services, Inc. (NNRYS)
905 6th Street SW, Suite 612
Washington, DC 20024
202/488-0739

National Runaway Switchboard
2210 North Halsted Street
Chicago, IL 60614
800/621-4000 (toll-free outside of Illinois)
800/972-6004 (toll-free in Illinois)

Runaway Hotline
PO Box 52896
Houston, TX 77052
800/231-6946 (toll-free outside of Texas)
800/392-3352 (toll-free in Texas)

Runaway youth shelters are located in communities across the nation. In addition to temporary shelter, runaway and shelter programs may provide services including: family unification; outreach; 24-hour intake; assessment of needs; individual, group and family counseling; medical and mental health services; legal assistance; supplementary education; job training and employment; referral (to agencies providing alternative shelter); and aftercare.

STATE RESOURCES FOR RUNAWAY YOUTH

ALABAMA

Mobile County Community Mental
Health Services, Inc.
2400 Gordon Smith Drive
Mobile, AL 36617
205/476-3614

Mobile County Youth Crisis Center
273 South Houston Street
Mobile, AL 36606
205/690-8453

Sojourn
551 Westwood
Mobile, AL 36606
205/476-3614

Thirteenth Place/American Red
Cross
1525 Chestnut Street
Gadsen, AL 35901
205/547-8971

ALASKA

Family Connection
1836 West Northern Lights
Boulevard
Anchorage, AK 99503
907/279-0551

Youth Alternative Service Network
PO Box 928
Anchorage, AK 99510
907/272-6713

Fairbanks Native Association, Inc.
310 1/2 First Avenue
Fairbanks, AK 99701
907/452-1648

ARIZONA

Tumbleweed
Center for Youth Resources
309 West Portland
Phoenix, AZ 85003
602/271-9849

Open Inn Administration
2251 North Indian Ruins Road
Suite 4
Tucson, AZ 58715
602/296-5437

Open Inn-Nuestra Casa
4902 East Broadway
Tucson, AZ 85712
602/327-6213

Open Inn-North Star
4751 East Linden
Tucson, AZ 85712
602/795-1571

Open Inn-Serendipity
4131 East Fifth Street
Tucson, AZ 85711
602/323-2929

ARKANSAS

Stepping Stone (Emergency Shelter)
5 Stillman Drive
Little Rock, AR 72209
501/562-1809

Zion Youth Shelter
7107 Alma Highway
PO Box 2446 (mail)
Alma, AR 72921
501/632-4618

Comprehensive Juvenile Services, Inc.
51 South Sixth Street
Fort Smith, AR 72901
501/785-4031

CALIFORNIA

Xanthos Counseling and Community Services
1205 Lincoln Avenue
Alameda, CA 94501
415/522-8363

Berkeley Youth Alternatives
2141 Bonar Street
Berkeley, CA 94702
415/849-1618
415/849-1402 (hotline)

Huckleberry House (Youth Advocates, Inc.)
1292 Page
San Francisco, CA 94117
415/621-2929

Youth Advocates, Inc.
Nine Grove Lane
San Anselmo, CA 94960
415/453-5200

Casa Say
509 View Street
Mountain View, CA 94041
415/961-2622

Butte County Mental Health Crisis Service
592 Rio Lindo Avenue
Chico, CA 95926
916/891-2810

Diogenes Youth Services
1615 Fifth Street, Suite A
Davis, CA 95616
916/756-5666

Diogenes Youth Services
9097 Tuolumne Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826
916/363-0063
916/363-0064

Tahoe Youth Services
824 Emerald Bay Road
PO Box 848 (mail)
South Lake Tahoe, CA 95705
916/541-2445

Western States Youth Services
926 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
916/441-1045

YMCA Youth Crisis Center
1752 Tehame Street
Redding, CA 96001
916/244-6226

The Bridge
3151 Redwood Street
San Diego, CA 92104
619/280-6150

San Diego Youth Services
2220 Broadway
San Diego, CA 92102
619/232-8126

San Diego Youth Involvement
Project, Inc.
626 South 28th Street
San Diego, CA 92113
619/234-1871

YMCA Project Oz
3304 Idlewild Way
San Diego, CA 92117
619/275-3421

Project Oz North Coast
1212 Oak Avenue
Carlsbad, CA 92008
619/729-4926

Family Care Resource Center and
Gatehouse
214 Richfield Avenue
El Cajon, CA 92020
619/579-8761

Casa de Bienvenidos
10911 Reagan Street
Los Alamitos, CA 90720
714/995-8601 (Orange County)
213/594-6825 (Los Angeles)

1736 Projects (Los Angeles)
St. Cross Episcopal Church
1736 Monterey Boulevard
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254
213/372-5843

Stepping Stone
1833 18th Street
Santa Monica, CA 90404
213/450-7839

Hollywood Community Services
Program Options House
2471 North Beachwood Drive
Hollywood, CA 90068
213/467-8466

Travelers Aid Society Teen Canteen
646 South Los Angeles Street
Los Angeles, CA 90014
213/625-2501

Social Advocates for Youth
Individuals Now
1303 College Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95401
707/544-3299

Youth Crisis Service of Interface
Community
3475 Old Conejo Road
Newbury Park, CA 91320
805/498-6643

Klein Bottle Crisis Shelter
1311 Anacapa Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
805/963-8775

Klein Bottle Crisis Shelter
400 South Broadway
Santa Maria, CA 93454
805/922-0468

Odyssey
204 East Amerige
Fullerton, CA 92632
714/525-5838

South County Youth Shelter
508 St. Ann's Drive
Laguna Beach, CA 92651
714/955-1293

Turning Point
12922 Seventh Street
Garden Grove, CA 92640
714/636-3823

Monterey Peninsula Youth Project
590 Pearl Street
Monterey, CA 93940
408/373-4773

Bill Wilson House
884 Lafayette Street
Santa Clara, CA 95050
408/554-0888

Santa Cruz Community Counseling Center
526 Sosquel Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062
408/425-0771

Head Rest, Inc.
611 H Street
PO Box 1231 (mail)
Modesto, CA 95353
209/526-1440

COLORADO

Bannock Group Home (Volunteers of America)
455 Bannock
Denver, CO 80204
303/825-6025

Denver Alternative Youth Services
1240 West Bayard
Denver, CO 80223
303/698-2300

Traid Group Home
1743 Lafayette
Denver, CO 80218
303/831-8502

Gemini House
3670 Upham Street
Wheat Ridge, CO 80033
303/425-4002

Young Life/Dale House Project
821 North Cascade
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
303/471-0642

Horizon House
1126 Grand Avenue
Grand Junction, CO 81501
303/245-7962

COMITIS Crisis Center
9840 East 17th Avenue
PO Box 913 (mail)
Aurora, CO 80040
303/343-9890

Larimer County Shelter Care
4432 Poco Lane
Fort Collins, CO 80525
303/226-3163

Family Tree
7307 Grandview
Arvada, CO 80002
303/422-2133

CONNECTICUT

Youth Crisis Project
3030 Park Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06604
203/374-5611

Junction 1019
1019 Farmington Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06107
203/521-6890

The Bridge of Eri
90 North Main Street
West Hartford, CT 06107
203/521-8305

Douglas House
559 Howard Avenue
New Haven, CT 06519
203/777-3382

Greenwich Youth Shelter
105 Prospect Street
Greenwich, CT 06830
203/661-2599

Hartford YMCA Youth Emergency Shelter
160 Jewell Street
Hartford, CT 06103
203/522-4183

Salvation Army Emergency Shelter
136 Sigourney Street
Hartford, CT 06105
203/525-1898

Mansfield Youth and Family Counseling
4 South Eagleville Road
Storrs, CT 06268
203/429-3317

Windham Area Community Action Program
Windham Adolescents in Crisis
872 Main Street
Willimantic, CT 06226
203/423-4534

DELAWARE

Speak Out for Youth
Child, Inc. YMCA
11th and Washington Street
Wilmington, DE 19801
302/655-3311

801 House
AID in Dover
801 West Division Street
Dover, DE 19901
302/678-3133

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

National Network of Runaway and Youth Services, Inc.
905 6th Street SW, Suite 617
Washington, DC 20024
202/488-0739

Sasha Bruce House
701 Maryland Avenue NE
Washington, DC 20002
202/546-4900

FLORIDA

Interface Runaway Program
107 NW 15th Terrace
Gainesville, FL 32603
904/357-5999

Someplace Else
1315 Linda Ann Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32301
904/877-7993

Transient Youth Center
3015 Parental Home Road
Jacksonville, FL 32206
904/725-6662

Youth Alternatives Emergency Care
and Runaway Shelter
1386 Indian Lake Road
Daytona Beach, FL 32014
904/252-6550

Miami Bridge
1145 West 11th Street
Miami, FL 33136
305/324-8953

Switchboard of Miami
35 8th Street, SW
Miami, FL 33130
305/358-4357

Lutheran Ministries (Counseling
Service)
441 NE Third Avenue
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301
305/764-3430

Crosswinds
60 McLeod Street
PO Box 625 (mail)
Merritt Island, FL 32952
305/452-0800

Great Oaks Village Runaway Shelter
1718 East Michigan Avenue
Orlando, FL 32806
305/420-3620

Beach Place Runaway Center
201-205 Beach Place
Tampa, FL 33606
813/272-6606

Runaway Alternatives Project
(R.A.P. House)
70 Forest Drive
New Port Richey, FL 33552
813/856-5601

Youth and Family Connection
3821 5th Avenue North
St. Petersburg, FL 33950
813/323-2244

GEORGIA

The Bridge, Inc.
77 Peachtree Place NW
Atlanta, GA 30309
404/881-8346

The Alcove
507 East Church Street
Monroe, GA 30655
404/267-4571

Athens Regional Attention Homes,
Inc.
490 Pulaski Street
Athens, GA 30606
404/548-5893

GUAM

The Sanctuary of Guam, Inc.
PO Box 21030
Agana, Guam 96921
671/734-2537
671/734-2661

HAWAII

Maunaolu Youth Residence Shelter
200 South Hill Street
Wailuku, HI 96793
808/579-9131

Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.
RR 1, Box 103B
Koloa Kauai, HI 96756
808/742-1524

Hale Kipa (Hawaii Youth Shelter
Network)
2006 McKinley Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
808/955-2248

IDAHO

Hays House
924 West Franklin
Boise, ID 83702
208/345-5591

Gem Youth Services
406 East Second
Emmett, ID 83617
208/365-3922

The Plantation Attention Home
1306 East Karcher Avenue
Nampa, ID 83651
208/466-7919

Bannock House
517 South Arthur
PO Box 2072 (mail)
Pocatello, ID 83201
208/234-2244

ILLINOIS

National Runaway Switchboard
2210 North Halsted Street
Chicago, IL 60614
312/929/5854
312/929-5150 (Metro Help Regional Switchboard)
800/621-4000 (toll-free outside of Illinois)
800/972-6004 (toll-free in Illinois)

Runaway Youth Project
Central Illinois Youth Service Bureau
4 North Old Capitol Plaza
Springfield, IL 62704
217/753-8300

The Roundhouse
311 West White Street
Champaign, IL 61820
217/359-5276

Aunt Martha's Youth Service Center
221 Plaza
Park Forest, IL 60466
312/747-2701

Crisis Homes
733 North Prospect Avenue
Park Ridge, IL 60068
312/692-4336

New Life House (Salvation Army)
1025 West Sunnyside
Chicago, IL 60640
312/271-6182

Youth Network Council
104 North Halsted
Chicago, IL 60606
312/226-1200

Southwest YMCA
13040 South Pulaski
Alsip, IL 60658
312/385-6700
312/385-0010 (24-hour hotline)

Connection House (Salvation Army)
212 North Roosevelt
Bloomington, IL 61701
309/829-5711

INDIANA

Stopover
445 North Penn Street, Suite 602
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317/635-9301

The Switchboard Runaway Center
316 West Creighton
Fort Wayne, IN 46807
219/456-4561

Alternative House
667 Van Buren
Gary, IN 46402
219/886-0760

Youth Service Bureau
2222 Lincolnway West
South Bend, IN 46807
219/284-9231

Monroe County Youth Shelter
2853 East 10th Street
Bloomington, IN 47401
812/335-7429

IOWA

Foundation II Runaway Youth Shelter
1540 Second Avenue SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
319/366-8797

The Shelter House
703 Burnett Avenue
Ames, IA 50010
515/233-2330

The Christian Home Association
500 North Seventh Street
PO Box 98 (mail)
Council Bluffs, IA 51502
712/325-1935

KANSAS

Youth Crisis Center
Kansas Children's Service League
1365 North Custer
Wichita, KS 67203
316/943-2243 (crisis line)

Greater Kansas City YMCA
4200 West 79th Street
Prairie Village, KS 66208
816/642-6800

Neutral Ground
708 North Ninth
Kansas City, KS 66101
913/342-5121

Wyandotte House
632 Tauromee
Kansas City, KS 66101
913/342-9332

KENTUCKY

The Shelter House One
1414 South First
Louisville, KY 40208
502/635-5233

Homeward Bound
927 Isabella Street
New Port, KY 41071
606/581-1111

LOUISIANA

The Greenhouse
700 Frenchmen Street
New Orleans, LA 70116
504/944-2477

Horizon House
Tangipahoa Youth Service
1826 River Road
Hammond, LA 70401
504/542-7811

MAINE

Fair Harbor Shelter Program--YWCA (females)
87 Spring Street
Portland, ME 04101
207/773-3517

Little Brothers Association (males)
677 Westbrook Street
Portland, ME 04106
207/773-4701

Halcyon House
Route 201
Hinckley, ME 04944
207/453-2997

New Beginnings, Inc.
RFD 1, Box 3340
Greene, ME 04236
207/946-7272

Youth Services Planning and
Development Council, Inc.
PO Box 502
Skowhegan, ME 04976
207/474-8311

MARYLAND

The Link
1 West Deer Park Road
Suite 201
Gaithersburg, MD 20760
301/840-2005

The Open Door
8222 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910
301/587-2052

Second Mile House
First United Methodist Church
Queens Chapel and Queensbury Roads
Hyattsville, MD 20782
301/779-1257
301/927-1386 (hotline)

Fellowship of Lights
1300 North Calvert Street
Baltimore, MD 21202
301/385-1200

Grassroots Crisis Intervention and
Peer Counseling Center
8045 Route 32
Columbia, MD 21044
301/531-6006

The Open Door
5417 Hilary Lane
Rockville, MD 20852
301/770-0193

Southern Area Youth Services (SAYS
House)
PO Box 55408
Friendly, MD 20744
301/292-3825

MASSACHUSETTS

Place Runaway House
402 Marlborough Street
Boston, MA 02115
617/536-4181

The Bridge, Inc.
21 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02108
617/227-7394

The Bridge, Inc. (Bridge over
Troubled Waters)
147 Tremont Street
Boston, MA 02111
617/423-9575

Boston Chinese Youth Essential
Services, Inc. (Asian Youth Shop)
199 Harrison Avenue
Boston, MA 02111
617/423-9575

Boston Crisis Shelter
32 City Square
Boston, MA 02129
617/423-9575

Newton-Wellesley-Weston-Needham
Multi-Service Center, Inc.
1301 Centre Street
Newton, MA 02159
617/244-4802

Listen, Inc.
28 Taylor Street
Saugus, MA 01906
617/233-8911

Prescott House
305 Belmont Street
Worcester, MA 01604
617/752-8586

Yo:, Inc.
75A Grove Street
Worcester, MA 01605
617/755-7660

Project Rap
9 Highland Avenue
Beverly, MA 01915
617/927-4506
617/922-0000

Springfield YWCA--Runaway Program
17 Harriet Street
Springfield, MA 01103
413/783-4254

Franklin/Hampshire Runaway Network
76 Pleasant Street
Northampton, MA 01061
413/586-8680

MICHIGAN

Counterpoint Runaway Shelter
715 Inkster Road
Inkster, MI 48141
313/563-5005

Casa Maria
1500 Trumbell
Detroit, 48216
313/962-4230

Detroit Transit Alternatives
680 Virginia Park
Detroit, MI 48202
313/873-0678

Out Wayne County Youth
715 Inkster Road
Inkster, MI 48141
313/563-5005

The Harbor
929 Pine Street
Port Huron, MI 48060
313/982-8584

Ozone House
608 North Main
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
313/662-2222

REACH (Runaway Emergency Action Center Hotline)
914 Church Street
Flint, MI 48502
313/233-8700

Macomb County Youth Interim Care Facility
4227 Bart Street
Warren, MI 48091
313/758-7040

The Sanctuary
1222 South Washington
Royal Oak, MI 48067
313/547-2260

Listening Ear
Runaway Youth Services
107 East Illinois
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
517/772-2918

Youth Emergency Services
116 Harold
Midland, MI 48032
517/631-5639

Cory Place
812 North Jefferson
Bay City, MI 48706
517/895-5563

Runaway Assistance Program
(R.A.P.)
398 Park Lane
East Lansing, MI 48823
517/351-5757
800/292-4517 (toll-free in
Michigan)

Equal Ground
415 Park Lane
East Lansing, MI 49085
517/337-1611

Innerlink
1110 Howard Street
Saginaw, MI 48601
517/753-3431

North East Michigan Community
Services Agency, Rainbow
2373 Gordon Road
PO Box 1038 (mail)
Alpena, MI 49707
517/356-3474
800/292-3003

Michigan Network of Runaway and
Youth Services
106 West Allegan
Lansing, MI 48933
517/484-5262

The Bridge
1115 Ball NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49505
616/451-3001

CHOICE
County Building, Room 202
Grand Haven, MI 49417
616/846-8376

The Link
2002 South State Street
St. Joseph, MI 49085
616/983-6351

Mecosta-Osceola Youth Attention
Center Runaway Service
22250 Northland Drive
Paris, MI 49336
616/832-3351

The Ark
1625 Gull Road
Kalamazoo, MI 49001
616/343-8765

Staircase Runaway Services Program
201 North Rowe
Ludington, MI 49431
616/843-3200

Third Level Crisis and
Intervention Center
S S West Front
PO Box 1035 (mail)
Traverse City, MI 49684
616/941-2280

Webster House for Runaways
125 Delaware
Muskegon, MI 49442
616/722-2964

MINNESOTA

The Bridge for Runaway Youth
2200 Emerson Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55405
612/377-8800

Red School House, Inc.
643 Virginia Street
St. Paul, MN 55103
612/488-6626

Evergreen House
921 Minnesota Avenue
Bemidji, MN 56601
218/751-4332

Duluth Shelter (St. Louis County Social Services)
1830 East 4th Street
Duluth, MN 55812
218/728-6467

Range Youth Emergency Shelter (Virginia Social Services)
408 South 3rd Street
Virginia, MN 55792
218/749-7127

MISSISSIPPI

Friends of Children of Mississippi, Inc.
119 Mays Street
Jackson, MS 39213
601/362-1541

Our House
345 Milsaps Avenue
Jackson, MS 39206
601/355-0161

Delta Homes, Inc.
950 Broadway
Greenville, MS 38701
601/332-5421

MISSOURI

Catholic Charities
4532 Lindell Boulevard
St. Louis, MO 63108
314/367-5500

Youth in Need
529 Jefferson Street
St. Charles, MO 63301
314/724-7171

Youth Emergency Services, Inc.
6816 Washington Avenue
University City, MO 63130
314/862-1334
314/727-6294 (hotline)

Front Door
707 North Eight Street
Columbia, MO 65201
314/874-8686

Synergy House
Park College Campus
PO Box 12181 (mail)
Parkville, MO 64152
816/741-8700

MONTANA

Discovery House (Judges' Foster Home Program)
709 East Third
Anaconda, MT 59711
406/563-3842

Missoula Attention Home
501 West Alder
Missoula, MT 59801
406/728-9776

Mountain Plains Youth Services Coalition
Attention Home
602 North Ewing Street
Helena, MT 59601
406/442-7484

Runaway Attention Home
618 Third Avenue N
Great Falls, MT 59401
406/452-7672

Tumbleweed
505 North 27th Street
Billings, MT 59111
406/259-2558

NEBRASKA

Youth Emergency Services, Inc.
1908 Hancock Street
Bellevue, NE 68005
402/291-8000

Youth Service Systems of Lincoln, Inc.
2202 South 11th Street
Lincoln, NE 68502
402/457-3040

NEVADA

Youth Manor
2607 West Charleston
Las Vegas, NV 89102
702/870-2416

Foster Youth Services
190 East Liberty
Reno, NV 89501
702/323-6296

NEW HAMPSHIRE

New Hampshire Network for Runaway and Homeless Youth
99 Hanover Street
PO Box 440 (mail)
Manchester, NH 03015
603/668-1920

NEW JERSEY

Project Youth Haven
Youth Department
Diocese of Paterson
374 Grand Street
Paterson, NJ 07505
201/881-0280

The Starting Point, Inc.
1213 Pacific Avenue
Atlantic City, NJ 08401
609/347-1122

Together, Inc.
7 State Street
Glassboro, NJ 08028
609/881-4040

Anchor House
482 Center Street
Trenton, NJ 08611
609/396-8329

Crossroads Runaway Program
15 Washington Street
Mount Holly, NJ 08060
609/261-5400

NEW MEXICO

Amistad
2929 Barcelona SW
Albuquerque, NM 87104
505/877-0371

New Day, Inc.
1817 Sigma Chi NE
Albuquerque, NM 87106
505/247-9559

NEW YORK

Barnabas (Salvation Army)
757 South Warren Street
Syracuse, NY 13202
315/475-1688

Booth House (Salvation Army)
238 Furman Street
Syracuse, NY 13205
315/471-7628

N.Y.C. Runaway Hotline
2 Lafayette Street
New York, NY 10001
212/577-7700
212/577-7777 (hotline)

Covenant House
460 West 41st Street
New York, NY 10036
212/354-4323

Covenant House (girls)
447 West 47th Street
New York, NY 10036
212/354-4323

Covenant House (boys)
218 West 15th Street
New York, NY 10011
212/989-1850

Enter, Inc.
2011 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10029
212/410-7064

Project Contact
315 East 10th Street
New York, NY 10009
212/533-3570

Runaway and Homeless Youth
Advocacy Project
444 West 56th Street
New York, NY 10019
212/489-3588

The Emergency Shelter, Inc.
69 Saint Marks Place
New York, NY 10003
212/777-1234

GLIE Community Youth Programs
2169 Grand Concourse, 7th Floor
Bronx, NY 10453
212/584-2500

Nassau County Youth Board
One West Street
Mineola, NY 11501
516/535-5892

Project S.A.F.E.
151 Phelps Lane
North Babylon, NY 11703
516/957-3000

Runaway Youth Coordinated Council,
Inc.
91 North Franklin Street, Room 201
Hempstead, NY 11550
516/489-6066

Seabury Barn
1257 North Country Road
Stonybrook, NY 11790
516/751-1411

Walkabout, Inc.
218 Broadway
Bethpage, NY 11714
516/822-2291
516/931-9272

Sanctuary Project
425 Park Avenue
Huntington, NY 11743
516/271-2183

Project Equinox
214 Lark Street
Albany, NY 12210
518/434-6135

Families in Crisis/Unity House
2900 5th Avenue
Troy, NY 12180
518/272-2370

Center for Youth Services
258 Alexander Street
Rochester, NY 14209
716/271-7670

Compass House
371 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14202
716/886-1351

Hillside Children's Center
1183 Monroe Avenue
Rochester, NY 14620
716/473-5150

Family House
16 Rock City Road
Woodstock, NY 12498
914/679-9240

NORTH CAROLINA

Haven House
401 Whittaker Mill Road
Raleigh, NC 27608
919/755-6368

Wrenn House
605 West North Street
Raleigh, NC 27603
919/832-7866

Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation
102 Reynolda Village
Winston-Salem, NC 27106
919/748-9222

Youth Care, Inc.
307 West Market Street
Greensboro, NC 27402
919/378-9109

Youth Care, Inc.
Act Together
118 East Fischer Avenue
Greensboro, NC 27401
919/274-9673

The Relatives
1000 East Boulevard
Charlotte, NC 28203
704/377-0602

NORTH DAKOTA

Fargo Youth Center
914 Main Street
Fargo, ND 58107
701/235-2147

Mountain Plains Youth Services Coalition
Charles Hall Youth Services
1424 West Century Avenue
PO Box 1995 (mail)
Bismarck, ND 58501
701/255-7229

OHIO

Huckleberry House, Inc.
1421 Hamlet Street
Columbus, OH 43201
614/294-5553

Lighthouse
2685 Stratford Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45220
513/961-4080

Daybreak I
819 Wayne Avenue
Dayton, OH 45410
513/461-1000

Daybreak II
21 Indiana Avenue
Youngstown, OH 44505
216/746-8419

Center for Children and Youth Services
The Junction Runaway Shelter
351 Fourth Street
Elyria, OH 44035
216/322-1103
216/244-0625

New Horizon Shelter Care
116 West North Street
Medina, OH 44256
216/722-2616

Safe Landing
39 West Cuyahoga Falls Avenue
Akron, OH 44310
216/253-7632

Safe Space Station
12321 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44016
216/421-2000

Connecting Point
3301 Collingwood Boulevard
Toledo, OH 43610
419/243-1001

OKLAHOMA

Family Junction
108 NW 15th
Oklahoma City, OK 73160
405/272-0726

Youth Services for Oklahoma City
1219 North Classen Boulevard
Oklahoma City, OK 73106
405/235-7537

Kay County Youth Services Center and Shelter
415 West Grand
Ponca City, OK 74601
405/762-8341

Youth and Family Center Juvenile Shelter
110 East Eufaula
Norman, OK 73069
405/321-0240

Community Children's Shelter (C.C.S.)
15 Monroe NE
Ardmore, OK 73402
405/226-1838

Leon J. York Youth Shelter/Payne County Youth Service, Inc.
2804 West 32nd
Box 921 (zip code 74076)
Stillwater, OK 74074
405/377-1452
405/377-3380

Youth Services of Grady County, Inc.
620 West Choctaw
Chickasha, OK 73018
405/224-5437

Logan County Youth Shelter
107 East Oklahoma Street
Guthrie, OK 73044
405/282-5524

Youth Service Center
1104 Circle Drive
Clinton, OK 73601
405/323-4941

Youth and Family Resource Center, Inc.
326 West 11th
Shawnee, OK 74801
405/275-3340

Youth and Family Services of Canadian County, Inc. (YFSCC)
2404 Sunset Drive
El Reno, OK 73036
405/262-6555

Youth Service Center of North Central Oklahoma, Inc.
319 North Grand Avenue
Enid, OK 73701
405/233-7220

Cherokee Nation Youth Services
706 B East Cherrie
Tahlequah, OK 74464
918/456-3859

Leflore County Youth Services, Inc.
404 Dewey
PO Box 711 (mail)
Poteau, OK 74953
918/647-4196

Muskogee County Council of Youth Services
1515 West Broadway
Muskogee, OK 74401
918/682-2341

Youth Services of Tulsa County/ Adolescent Emergency Shelter
619 South Detroit
Tulsa, OK 74120
918/582-0061

OREGON

Harry's Mother
1942 NW Kearney
Portland, OR 97209
503/281-9900

Looking Glass
1177 Pearl
Eugene, OR 97401
503/689-2688

Washington County Diversion Program (Boys and Girls Aid Society)
12195 SW Canyon Road, Suite #5
Beaverton, OR 97005
503/641-7820

Clackamas County Volunteer Shelter Care
729 Molalla Avenue #7
Oregon City, OR 97045
503/655-2928

Youth Counseling Services
Youthworks, Inc.
1307 West Main Street, Suite 3
Medford, OR 97501
503/779-2393

Youth Services (Youth Outreach, Inc.)
128 SW 9th Street
Corvallis, OR 97333
503/758-3000

PENNSYLVANIA

Alternatives Corporation of Pottstown
61 Franklin Street
Pottstown, PA 19464
215/327-0111

Helpline Center
1914 Maple Avenue
PO Box 171 (mail)
Hatfield, PA 19440
215/368-4357

Tabor Children's Services
601 New Britain Road
Doylestown, PA 18901
215/348-4071

Voyage House
311 South Juniper Street
Suite 1000
Philadelphia, PA 19107
215/545-0166
215/545-2910 (hotline)

Youth Emergency Services
923 Ludlow Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
215/925-8886

Youth Services
410 North 34th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104
215/222-3262

Host Homes
Youth in Action, Inc.
7th and Morton Avenue
Chester, PA 19013
215/874-1407
215/874-4944 (hotline)

Valley Youth House Committee
539 8th Avenue
Bethlehem, PA 18066
215/691-1200

Centre County Youth Services
Bureau
205 East Beaver Avenue
State College, PA 16801
814/237-5731

Amicus House/The Whale's Tale
5100 Centre Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15232
412/621-8407

Three Rivers Youth Shelter
2039 Termon Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15212
412/766-2215

Children's Home of York
Shelter Program
RD #1, Shoehouse Road
York, PA 17406
717/755-1033

The Bridge
15 South Franklin Street
Wilkes Barre, PA 18701
717/824-5766

PUERTO RICO

Runaway and Homeless Youth Program
PO Box 213 (mail)
Plaza de Ponce, PR 00732
809/840-5300

The Salvation Army
1327 Americo Miranda Avenue
Cappara Terrace, PR 00921
809/781-6838

RHODE ISLAND

Tri-Cap Group Homes, Inc.
New Routes
939 Douglas Avenue
Providence, RI 02908
401/831-4630

Rhode Island Runaway House
64 Oak Street
Providence, RI 02909
401/831-4630

Tri-Cap Group Homes
New Routes
59 West Shore Road
Warwick, RI 02889
401/737-8282

Stopover Shelters
3380 East Main Road
PO Box 553 (mail)
Portsmouth, RI 02871
401/683-1824

SOUTH CAROLINA

Green House
10-12 Church Street
Sumter, SC 29150
803/775-3311

Hope House
1905 Shivers Road
Columbia, SC 29202
803/758-6406

Crossroads
3945 Rivers Avenue
North Charleston, SC 29405
803/747-6500

SOUTH DAKOTA

Mountain Plains Youth Services
Coalition
221 South Central
Pierre, SD 57501
605/224-8696

New Beginnings
1206 North 3rd
Aberdeen, SD 57401
605/229-1239

Threshold
1107 South Minnesota Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
605/334-1414

Sisseton-Wanpeton Sioux Tribe
RR 2
PO Box 258 (mail)
Sisseton, SD 57262
605/698-3911

TENNESSEE

Child and Family Service Runaway Shelter
2535 Magnolia Avenue
Knoxville, TN 37914
615/523-2689

Oasis House
1219 16th Avenue S
PO Box 120655 (mail)
Nashville, TN 37212
615/327-4455

The Family Link
1203 Peabody
PO Box 40437 (mail)
Memphis, TN 38104
901/725-6911

TEXAS

Runaway Hotline
PO Box 5289
Houston, TX 77052
800/392-3352

Youth Shelter of Galveston, Inc.
2901 Broadway
Galveston, TX 77550
409/763-8861

Casa de los Amigos
2640 Bachman Boulevard
Dallas, TX 75220
214/358-4504

Catholic Family Services, Inc.
1522 South Van Buren
Amarillo, TX 79101
806/376-4571

Association for the Advancement of Mexican-Americans
204 Clifton
Houston, TX 77011
713/926-9491

Houston Metropolitan Ministries
1440 Harold Street
Houston, TX 77006
713/522-3955

Sand Dollar
310 Branard
Houston, TX 77006
713/529-3053

The Family Connection, Inc.
Southwest Network of Youth Services
2001 Huldy
Houston, TX 77109
713/527-8218

The Bridge Association, Inc.
SPRUCE
1601 8th Avenue
Fort Worth, TX 76104
817/926-3331

Project Option
703 Parmer
PO Box 185 (mail)
Killeen, TX 76540
817/634-2085

The Bridge Emergency Shelter, Inc.
3103 West Avenue
San Antonio, TX 78213
512/340-7933

Middle Earth Crisis Services
1306 East 7th
Austin, TX 78762
512/482-8322

UTAH

Youth Services
3999 South Main
Salt Lake City, UT 84107
801/535-5030

Department of Social Services
150 West North Temple Street
Salt Lake City, UT 84110
801/533-5331

VERMONT

Spectrum, Inc.
18 Monroe Street
Burlington, VT 05401
802/864-7423

St. Johnsbury Youth Service Bureau
65 Railroad Street
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819
802/748-8732

Country Roads Runaway Program
Washington County Youth Service
Upper Main Street, RFD 1
PO Box 525 (mail)
Montpelier, VT 05602
802/229-9151

Youth Services Runaway Program of
Windham County
139 Main Street
PO Box 818 (mail)
Brattleboro, VT 05301
802/257-0361

VIRGINIA

Lighthouse Runaway Hotline
Municipal Center
Virginia Beach, VA 23456
804/427-4777

The Trust-Roanoke Valley Trouble
Center
3515 Williamson Road
Roanoke, VI 24012
804/563-0311

Central Virginia Child Development
Association
117 4th Street NE
Charlottesville, VA 22901
804/977-4260

Oasis House
2918 Chamberlayne Avenue
Richmond, VA 23222
804/329-0079

Volunteer Emergency Foster Care
2317 Westwood Avenue
Richmond, VA 23230
804/353-4698

Alternative House
2009 Gallows Road
Vienna, VA 22180
703/356-6360
PO Box 637 (mail)
McLean, VA 22101

VIRGIN ISLANDS

Youth Services Administration
Office of the Governor
PO Box 9857
St. Thomas, Virgin Islands 00801
809/774-4933

WASHINGTON

Issaquah Youth and Family Programs
745 Front Street
Issaquah, WA 98027
206/392-6367
206/392-KIDS (crisis line)

The Shelter
1545 12th Avenue South
Seattle, WA 98144
206/328-0902

Youth Eastside Service
257 100 Avenue NE
Bellevue, WA 98004
206/454-5502

Whatcom Connection
2324 Williams Street
Bellingham, WA 98225
206/676-1022

Catholic Community Services
Northwest
2806 Douglas Avenue
Bellingham, WA 98225
206/733-5800

Skagit Group Ranch Homes
2021 East College Way
PO Box 217 (mail)
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
206/428-4818

NUC-NU-WE-SHA Runaway Program
PO Box 151
Toppenish, WA 98948
509/865-2255

WEST VIRGINIA

Time Out
1427 7th Avenue
Huntington, WV 25701
304/525-4332

Patchwork
1583 Lee Street E
Charleston, WV 25311
304/344-3527

WISCONSIN

Walker's Point Youth and Family
Center
732 South 21st Street
Milwaukee, WI 53204
414/647-8200

Pathfinders
1614 East Kane
Milwaukee, WI 53202
414/271-1560

Racine Runaway Youth Shelter
1030 Washington Avenue
Racine, WI 53403
414/632-0424

Crisis Intervention
618 56th Street
Kenosha, WI 53140
414/657-7188

Outagamie County Youth Services,
Inc.
106 North Oneida Street
Appleton, WI 54911
414/731-0555

Crisis Center
The Runaway Project
131 South Madison
Green Bay, WI 54301
414/499-8768
414/432-8832 (crisis line)

Briarpatch, Inc.
512 East Washington
Madison, WI 53703
608/251-1126

Safety House
30 South Academy Street
Janesville, WI 53545
608/752-2609

First Call for Help
Runaway Bridge
1910 South Avenue
PO Box 2373 (mail)
LaCrosse, WI 54601
608/782-8010

Alpha House
121 12th Avenue W
Menomonie, WI 54751
715/235-9552

Project Runaway
1223 Menomonie Street
Eau Claire, WI 54701
715/834-2046

WYOMING

Laramie Youth Crisis Center
812 University Avenue
Laramie, WY 82070
307/742-5936

Attention Home, Inc.
1810 Van Lennen Avenue
Cheyenne, WY 82001
307/632-4740

Project Youth
20 West Works
Sheridan, WY 82801
307/672-5894

Project Youth
Time Out
20 West Works
Sheridan, WY 82801
307/672-7866

CHAPTER 4

RESOURCES FOR MISSING CHILDREN

For many reasons, including increased public awareness and outrage, the problem of missing children has become a focus of national concern. It is estimated conservatively that each year, in addition to runaways, 6,000 to 8,000 children are abducted by strangers, and 150,000 by parents in custody disputes. Sexual molestation and use in pornographic photography are often the fate of "stranger abducted" children. They are seldom recovered alive.

The Behavioral Science Unit of the FBI suggests the following generic categories of abductors:

1. Psychotics--frequently, women who have lost or are unable to have children;

2. Profiteers--mainly criminal exploiters who market children to adoption rings or pornographers;

3. Pedophiles--possibly the largest grouping, who abduct children for sexual purposes, perhaps terminating in the child's murder;

4. Serial or "recreational" killers--who abduct and almost invariably murder their victims.

If a child disappears from a family unit, early ascertainment and investigation will increase the chances for success in locating him or her. Too often, no report is made in the early stages when the chances of finding a clue are the highest. The following are actions* which may be taken:

1. File a missing persons report IMMEDIATELY with local police or sheriff. Be truthful. This may mean making a critical self analysis of family conflicts and/or relationships. Too often the authorities are handicapped in giving assistance because they are not aware of all the circumstances leading up to the disappearance.

2. Ask authorities to register data with the National Computer Information Center (NCIC Missing Persons Report and Request for NCIC entry). If they refuse, go to the nearest FBI office, provide

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*Information courtesy of Child Find and Find-Me, Inc.; see New York and Georgia listings.

information including name and badge number of original police contact. The FBI will provide a packet of detailed information for police and subsequent NCIC entry.

3. Ask authorities to check whether the missing person is being detained for a crime anywhere.

4. Ask authorities to register your missing person with their State Department of Justice (or computer data bank).

5. Stay in touch with the authorities. But do not take up their time needlessly. Be sure, however, that you are receiving all necessary cooperation.

6. Offer a reward in your newspaper, and distribute posters with photo/description/date of disappearance/contact telephone (usually police or sheriff) and/or address (post office box whenever possible). Always offer the reward for verified information.

7. Check Social Security records to determine if file is active. Provide as much personal data on the missing person as possible to: Social Security Administration, Public Inquiries, Department of Health and Human Services, 6501 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 20235.

8. Check with the FBI.

9. Check with your State Bureau of Investigation. This may have to be done by your police/sheriff.

10. Check with State Department, Washington, DC, for possible passport data.

11. File a missing persons report with the Salvation Army. They will aid in locating missing persons, and maintain a card file on people who come in for free meals. Contact other missions as well. Many maintain records on those receiving free food.

12. Start a scrapbook. It is a good source to inform yourself constantly as to what others have done.

13. Keep a pencil and paper by the telephone to record information, if any comes. If possible, have a tape recorder handy to record messages.

14. GET AS MUCH PUBLICITY AS YOU CAN. If the missing person is alive, some such publicity may reach him or her.

15. Check area morgues and hospitals for unidentified persons and/or bodies.

16. Check which religious cults have been active in your area. Show missing child's photo around in young people's "hangouts." Show concern rather than anger.

17. List in pictorial publications, such as CHILD FIND MAGAZINE, and POLICE TIMES (American Federation of Police). (See agency listing for addresses.)

18. Send details to the national or state agency which meets your needs. (See listings.)

19. Check out all ideas or suspicions. DO NOT RULE OUT ANYTHING EVEN IF IT APPEARS "OUT OF CHARACTER"; the mere fact the person is missing (if no foul play) is usually "out of character."

20. Check with each state's motor vehicle registration department (if a car is involved). If your city or county is a member of the computer service this can be done almost instantaneously. If not, and you have a legal reason, write to the Motor Vehicle Registration Department of each state for a "Request for Driver Record Information."

21. If you child has been abducted by a natural parent, check with your local District Attorney's Office for advice.

22. If you child is of age to join the armed services, check with each branch.

23. Check with Post Office, subscription lists, employers, or any other place an address change may be requested.

24. Check past telephone bills for out-of-town numbers which may be a source of possible destinations, and credit card bills for out-of-town purchases.

25. If a private detective is employed, be careful to obtain a reputable one.

26. Be cautious in dealing with "psychics." Do not pay large sums of money. Pay after results are obtained, not for unproven "visions."

27. Send details with photo to Missing Persons Bureau, Bergen County NJ, 1 Court Street, Hackensack, NJ 07601.

Experts emphasize that children should be warned about the hazards posed by strangers, and about adults who offer them bribes, or inveigle them into "secrets." While police in some communities have undertaken public education on child safety and fingerprint children for identification, there is general agreement that educating children to protect themselves "must begin at home and never end."

In a recent article,* the following suggestions were offered to parents to help increase a child's awareness of potential danger:

-- Make sure your child knows his full name, address (including state) and telephone number (including area code) and how to reach the operator or make a long-distance call.

-- Teach your child that a stranger is someone that he or you don't know or don't know very well. "Bad" strangers are people who want kids to go somewhere with them or want to give them a present, like candy or a puppy, or want to take their picture. Tell your child that if he meets any bad strangers he should tell you about them. Many experts offer even stronger advice: they say children should avoid strangers entirely.

-- Tell your child that it is unusual for adults to ask children for help or for directions and that it is best to ignore them. If a stranger calls your child to a car, he shouldn't go near it. If he is followed by an automobile or on foot, he should run home, to the nearest public place or yell, "Help!" Children should not run and hide in a deserted place.

-- Keep a copy of your child's fingerprints and be able to locate dental records. Take photographs every year (four times annually for children under two).

-- Don't buy items with your child's name on them, such as T shirts or lunch boxes. Children will respond more readily to a stranger if they are addressed by name.

-- Instruct your child never to answer the door when home alone or tell anyone over the phone that he is home alone.

-- Outline what your child should do if he becomes separated from you. If separated while shopping, the child should not look for you but go immediately to the nearest checkout counter and ask a clerk for assistance. Tell him never to go to the parking lot.

-- Never leave a child unattended in a car. Advise him to walk and play with other children if you are not around.

-- Be sure your child's school or day-care center will not release him to anyone but you or someone designated by you. Set a code word with your child to be used as a signal if you send an unfamiliar adult to pick him up.

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*Nikki Finke Grunberg and Holly Morris, "The Simple Rules of Safety," Newsweek, 19 March 1984, p. 80.

-- Tell your child that no one has the right to touch him or make him feel uncomfortable or ask him to keep a secret from you.

Frequently, missing children are transported across state boundaries, which greatly compounds the problem of locating them. Most organizations that deal with the issue of missing children, therefore, provide local and national assistance and perspectives.

ORGANIZATIONS FOR MISSING CHILDREN*

National Center for Missing
and Exploited Children
1835 K Street NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20006
202/634-9821

In April, 1984, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention of the U.S. Department of Justice announced a $3.3 million grant to establish a National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. The National Center will help parents and law enforcement agencies locate missing children and prevent child exploitation.

ALASKA

Hide and Seek of Fairbanks*
SR Box 80292
Fairbanks, AK 99701
907/488-3591

Missing Children of America, Inc.*
PO Box 10-1938
Anchorage, AK 99510
907/243-8484
907/272-8484
National network to locate missing children, public awareness.

CALIFORNIA

Bay Area Center for Victims of
Child Stealing*
30 North 10th Street
San Jose, CA 95112
408/286-9033
Provides assistance for parents and public education.

Center for the Family in
Transition*
5725 Paradise Drive
Building A, Suite 100
Corte Madera, CA 94925
415/924-5750
Assistance and counseling to parents and victims.

Child Stealing Research Center
431 South Commonwealth
Los Angeles, CA 90020
213/738-7402

Find the Children
11811 West Olympic Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90064
213/477-6721

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*Organizations marked with an asterisk (*) are members of ACTION, a confederation of organizations dedicated to action and information about missing persons.

Missing Teens and Young Adults*
PO Box 7800
Santa Cruz, CA 95061
408/425-3663
408/426-7972
Support group, self-help, awareness.

National "Kid Print" Program*
(Orange County Search and Rescue)
PO Box 5548
Buena Park, CA 90622
714/828-3200
714/983-0945
Information on establishing local print program, referral.

National Task Force on Prostitution
Box 26354
San Francisco, CA 94126
415/381-3881

Spiritual Counterfeits Project*
Box 2418
Berkeley, CA 94702
415/527-9212
Cult awareness project.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ACTION
Young Volunteers in Action
806 Connecticut Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20525
202/655-4000

American Bar Association
National Legal Resource Center for Child Advocacy and Protection*
1800 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20036
202/331-2250
Maintains a national directory of missing persons, and available information on child custody/ kidnap laws.

American Federation of Police
1000 Connecticut Avenue NW
Suite 9
Washington, DC 20036
202/293-9088
Publishes Police Times magazine, featuring Child-Guard Data Center, with free space for photographs of missing children. Circulated to 21,000 police and sheriffs' agencies.

Amtrak Police
400 North Capitol Street NW
Washington, DC 20001
202/383-2335
Posts missing children notices.

FLORIDA

Abducted Children Information Center (ACIC)*
1470 Gene
Winter Park, FL 32789
305/831-2000
Computerized registry for missing and abducted children.

Adam Walsh Child Resource Center*
1876 North University Drive
Suite 306
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33322
305/475-4847
Works for missing, abused, and neglected children.

American Federation of Police
1100 NE 125th Street
North Miami, FL 33161
305/891-1700

Catholic Social Services
5716 5th Avenue North
St. Petersburg, FL 33710
813/381-1159

Central Agency for Jewish Education*
4200 Biscayne Boulevard
Miami, FL 33137
305/576-4030
Cult awareness organization.

Child KEYPPERS of Florida
PO Box 6292
Lake Worth, FL 33466
305/586-6695

Children's Rights of Florida, Inc.*
PO Box 173
Pinnelas Park, FL 33565
813/546-1593
Locates missing children, updates and informs on legislation.

Dee Scofield Awareness Program, Inc.*
4418 Bay Court Avenue
Tampa, FL 33611
813/839-5025
Promotes awareness, legislation, provides aid to victims' families; maintains scrapbook/statistics on missing children.

Division of Criminal Justice Information Systems
Florida Department of Law Enforcement
PO Box 1489
Tallahassee, FL 32302
904/488-3961

Missing Children Help Center*
410 Ware Boulevard, Suite 1102
Tampa, FL 33619
813/681-HELP
813/623-KIDS
Referral, distributes missing children posters nationwide, 24-hour HELP line.

Missing Persons Nationwide, Inc.*
PO Box 5331
Hudson, FL 33568
813/856-5144

National Association for Missing Children, Inc.*
300 South University Drive
Plantation, FL 33324
305/473-6126
Association of parents and others concerned about child abduction.

GEORGIA

Find-Me, Inc.*
PO Box 1612
LaGrange, GA 30241
404/884-7419
Promotes action, information and awareness, counsels, distributes ACTION booklet.

Kyle's Story*
205 North Chilton Avenue
LaGrange, GA 30240
404/884-7419
Promotes legislative change, lobbying activities.

ILLINOIS

National Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse
332 South Michigan Avenue
Suite 1250
Chicago, IL 60604
312/663-3520

KENTUCKY

E.C.H.O. (Exploited Children's Help Organization)
306 East 4th Street
Newport, KY 41071
606/261-6478
Awareness, information, parental support, legislative action.

Exploited Child Unit
Jefferson County Department for Human Services
216 South 5th Street
Louisville, KY 40202
502/581-5787

Kentucky Task Force on Exploited and Missing Children
Office County Executive
6th Floor, County Courthouse
500 West Jefferson Street
Louisville, KY 40202
502/581-5708

MAINE

Coalition Organized for Parental Equity (COPE)*
68 Deering Street
Portland, ME 04101
207/775-0258
Maintains information for National Congress for Men Directory, including child location assistance.

Friends of Child Find of Maine*
50 Isley Street
Portland, ME 04103

MARYLAND

Single Parent (Parents without Partners Magazine)*
7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 1008
Bethesda, MD 20814
301/654-8850
Publishes Single Parent, provides contacts to parents seeking recovery of children.

MASSACHUSETTS

Child Search*
5 Beacon Street, Suite 600
Boston, MA 02108
617/720-1760
Attempts to locate children through the schools, circulates photo-magazine.

MICHIGAN

Searching Parents Association*
PO Box 582
East Tawas, MI 48730
517/362-7148
Counseling and awareness.

MINNESOTA

Free Minds, Inc.*
Box 4216
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612/378-2528
Cult awareness organization.

MONTANA

Friends of Child Find of Montana*
737 South Billings, No. 0
Billings, MT 59101
406/259-6999

NEW JERSEY

Bergen County Sheriff's Office*
Missing Persons Bureau
1 Court Street
Hackensack, NJ 07601
201/646-2192
Maintains possibly the largest data bank on unidentified bodies in the United States.

Hide and Seek of Camden County*
150 Berlin Road
Gibbsboro, NJ 08026
609/783-3101

SEARCH*
560 Sylvan Avenue
Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632
201/567-4040
Publishes SEARCH, which contains photographs of missing persons, and distributes nationally to law enforcement agencies, hospitals, social services, transportation terminals.

NEW YORK

Center for Missing Children
207 Westminster Road
Rochester, NY 14607

PO Box 10088 (mail)
Rochester, NY 14610
716/473-2389
An institute for research and therapy, attempting to develop a data base profiling missing children, the circumstances surrounding abduction, and abductors; provides family therapy gratis to families at time of abductions, and when children are returned.

CHILD FIND*
PO Box 277
New Paltz, NY 12561
914/255-1846
800/431-5005 (toll-free number to be used in connection with information on missing children)
Computerized matching of children with parents registered in cases of "stranger abduction"; distributes CHILD FIND magazine to schools/officials; other public awareness activities.

Children's Rights of New York, Inc.*
19 Maple Street
Stony Brook, NY 11790
516/751-7840
Supports legislation to outlaw child-stealing; public education program; counsels victimized parents.

Citizens Freedom Foundation (National Office)*
Box 86
Hannacroix, NY 12087
518/756-8014
Cult awareness foundation with affiliates nationwide.

CULT HOT LINE (24-Hour)*
Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services
120 West 57th Street
New York, NY 10019
212/860-8533 (hotline)
212/582-9100 (office)

Gallery 345*
Children in Crisis
345 Lafayette Street
New York, NY 10012
212/535-4797
Promotes awareness by exhibiting photos of missing children.

OHIO

Cobra Connection*
PO Box 1958
Station A
Canton, OH 44705
216/454-9109
Public information and awareness organization.

Parents of Murdered Children*
100 East 8th Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202
513/721-5683
Outreach program.

The Roberta Jo Society*
129 East Main Street
Chillicothe, OH 45601
614/772-1781
Counseling, awareness, statistical data on missing.

OKLAHOMA

National Child Search, Inc.*
PO Box 800038
Oklahoma City, OK 73180
405/685-5621
Aids in location of missing and runaway children, support group works with law enforcement groups nationwide.

Oklahoma's Abducted Children, Inc.*
PO Box 21326
Oklahoma City, OK 73120
405/842-7293
Assistance, support to parents, supports legislation.

Oklahoma Parents Against Child Stealing*
PO Box 2112
Bartlesville, OK 74005
918/336-1921
Parental assistance in locating missing; legal awareness, coalitions.

OREGON

Friends of Child Find of Oregon*
Box 756
Springfield, OR 97477
503/341-3822

Hide and Seek Foundation, Inc.*
PO Box 806
McMinnville, OR 97218
503/472-2987
Investigates individual cases gratis, promotes awareness, counsels, supports legislation.

National Missing Children's Locate Center, Inc.*
PO Box 42584
Portland, OR 97242
503/238-1350
Computerizes information on missing children; publishes resource materials, directories, programs; provides computerized information listings, videotapes, posters, maintains files; runaway project and kidnap prevention.

PENNSYLVANIA

Children's Rights of Pennsylvania, Inc.*
PO Box 2764
Lehigh Valley, PA 18001
215/437-2971
Circulates photographs and information.

Hide and Seek of Pennsylvania*
c/o Woodward Caves
Woodward, PA 16882
814/349-5185

Parents Against Child Snatching*
PO Box 581
Coraopolis, PA 15108
412/264-9025
412/526-5537
Counseling and support to parents.

RHODE ISLAND

Society for Young Victims*
29 Thurston Avenue
Newport, RI 02840
401/847-5083
Lobbies, organizes search teams for police agencies, licensed detective; maintains scrapbooks and computerized statistics.

TEXAS

National Missing/Abducted Children
Criminal Justice Center
Sam Houston State University
Huntsville, TX 77341
409/294-1652

Nationwide Missing Persons Bureau*
3500 Aldine Bender
Box A
Houston, TX 77032
713/449-0355
713/449-3449
Missing persons clearinghouse.

Sheriff of Nueces County
PO Box 1940
Corpus Christi, TX 78403
512/888-0222

Texas Child Search
PO Box 8122
San Antonio, TX 78208
512/224-7939

UTAH

Child Find, Inc.
Utah Chapter*
1009 East 4555 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84117
801/262-8056
801/261-4134
Provo, Utah 801/375-5135

Child Industries*
PO Box 26814
Salt Lake City, UT 84126
801/298-2902
Child protection and awareness.

SLAM (Society's League Against Child Molestation)
360 East 4500 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84107
801/328-5878

VERMONT

National Coalition for Children's Justice
2998 Shelbourne
Shelbourne, VT 05482
802/985-8458

VIRGINIA

Alexandria Police Department
400 North Pitt Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
703/838-4716

WASHINGTON

CFF/Bothel*
19419 Both Way NE
Bothel, WA 98011
206/486-6770
Cult awareness organization.

Families and Friends of Missing
Persons
Jane Addams Building
11051 34th Avenue NE
Seattle, WA 98125
206/362-1081

CHAPTER 5

REFERENCES

NATIONAL YOUTH INFORMATION SERVICES

National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Research and Information

The National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Research and Information (NCCAN) is a resource for service providers; local, state, and national public and private agencies; members of Congress; researchers; and the general public. It provides support services to The National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect, which is located in the Office of Human Development Services, within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. At the core of the Clearinghouse is a computerized data base, publicly searchable, which contains information related to child abuse and neglect including:

- -- Published Documents
- -- Programs
- -- Research Projects
- -- State Laws
- -- Court Case Decisions
- -- Audiovisual Materials

For further information, contact:

NCCAN
Children's Bureau
Department of Health and Human Services
PO Box 1182
Washington, DC 20013
301/251-5157 (Child Abuse and Neglect
Searching Service "Searchline")

National Criminal Justice Reference Service

The National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) is a centralized information resource for criminal justice practitioners and researchers. Sponsored by the National Institute of Justice NCJRS is an international clearinghouse of information about law enforcement and criminal justice that

includes approximately 50,000 documents and audiovisual materials in its computerized collection. NCJRS services include:

- -- Selective Notification of Information
- -- Criminal Justice Reference Service
- -- Document Loan Program
- -- Reading Room
- -- Selected Bibliographies
- -- Microfiche Program
- -- Share Package of Public Information

For further information, contact:

National Criminal Justice Reference Service
National Institute of Justice
United States Department of Justice
Box 6000
Rockville, MD 20850
301/251-5500
800/638-8736

References

ACTION. Action Confederation Find-Me, Inc., 1983. (Sixth Printing.) PO Box 1612, LaGrange, GA 30241. 19 pages.

Directory of Accredited Agencies. Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children, 1983. 67 Irving Place, New York, NY 10003.

"Don't Talk to Strangers." Family Weekly, April 15, 1984, p. 6.

National Directory of Children and Youth Services '83-'84. Child Protection Report. 1983. 1305 20th Street NW, Washington, DC 20036. 538 pages.

National Directory of Runaway Programs, Fifth Edition. National Youth Work Alliance. 1983. 1346 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20036. 203 pages.

Selected Child Abuse Information and Resources. National Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse. 1983. 332 South Michigan Avenue, Suite 1250, Chicago, IL 60604. 15 pages.

"Stolen Children." Newsweek, March 19, 1984, pp. 78-86.

The National Children's Directory. Urban Information Interpreters, Inc. 1977. Post Office Box AH, College Park, MD 20740. 303 pages.

United Way Affiliated Information and Referral Services Directory. United Way of America/Services Outreach Division. 1981. United Way Plaza, Alexandria, VA 22314. 33 pages.